

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4924

To award a congressional gold medal to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 9, 2006

Mr. LATHAM (for himself, Mr. LEACH, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. NUSSLE, Mr. SABO, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. KLINE, and Mr. RAMSTAD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To award a congressional gold medal to Dr. Norman E.
Borlaug.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Congressional Tribute
5 to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Act of 2006”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds as follows:

1 (1) Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, was born in Iowa
2 where he grew up on a family farm, and received his
3 primary and secondary education.

4 (2) Dr. Borlaug attended the University of
5 Minnesota where he received his B.A. and Ph.D. de-
6 grees and was also a star NCAA wrestler.

7 (3) For the past 20 years, Dr. Borlaug has
8 lived in Texas where he is a member of the faculty
9 of Texas A&M University.

10 (4) Dr. Borlaug also serves as President of the
11 Sasakawa Africa Association.

12 (5) Dr. Borlaug's accomplishments in terms of
13 bringing radical change to world agriculture and up-
14 lifting humanity are without parallel.

15 (6) In the immediate aftermath of World War
16 II, Dr. Borlaug spent 20 years working in the poor-
17 est areas of rural Mexico. It was there that Dr.
18 Borlaug made his breakthrough achievement in de-
19 veloping a strain of wheat that could exponentially
20 increase yields while actively resisting disease.

21 (7) With the active support of the governments
22 involved, Dr. Borlaug's "green revolution" uplifted
23 hundreds of thousands of the rural poor in Mexico
24 and saved hundreds of millions from famine and
25 outright starvation in India and Pakistan.

1 (8) Dr. Borlaug’s approach to wheat production
2 next spread throughout the Middle East. Soon there-
3 after his approach was adapted to rice growing, in-
4 creasing the number of lives Dr. Borlaug has saved
5 to more than a billion people.

6 (9) In 1970, Dr. Borlaug received the Nobel
7 Prize, the only person working in agriculture to ever
8 be so honored. Since then he has received numerous
9 honors and awards including the Presidential Medal
10 of Freedom, the Public Service Medal, the National
11 Academy of Sciences’ highest honor, and the Rotary
12 International Award for World Understanding and
13 Peace.

14 (10) At age 91, Dr. Borlaug continues to work
15 to alleviate poverty and malnutrition. He currently
16 serves as president of Sasakawa Global 2000 Africa
17 Project, which seeks to extend the benefits of agri-
18 cultural development to the 800,000,000 people still
19 mired in poverty and malnutrition in sub-Saharan
20 Africa.

21 (11) Dr. Borlaug continues to serve as Chair-
22 man of the Council of Advisors of the World Food
23 Prize, an organization he created in 1986 to be the
24 “Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture” and which
25 presents a \$250,000 prize each October at a Cere-

1 mony in Des Moines, Iowa, to the Laureate who has
2 made an exceptional achievement similar to Dr.
3 Borlaug's breakthrough 40 years ago. In the almost
4 20 years of its existence, the World Food Prize has
5 honored Laureates from Bangladesh, India, China,
6 Mexico, Denmark, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, the
7 United Kingdom, and the United States.

8 (12) Dr. Borlaug has saved more lives than any
9 other person who has ever lived, and likely has saved
10 more lives in the Islamic world than any other
11 human being in history.

12 (13) Due to a lifetime of work that has led to
13 the saving and preservation of an untold amount of
14 lives, Dr. Norman E. Borlaug is deserving of Amer-
15 ica's highest civilian award: the congressional gold
16 medal.

17 **SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.**

18 (a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The President
19 Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House
20 of Representatives are authorized to make appropriate ar-
21 rangements for the presentation, on behalf of Congress,
22 of a gold medal of appropriate design, to Dr. Norman E.
23 Borlaug, in recognition of his enduring contributions to
24 the United States and the world.

1 (b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purpose of the
2 presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary
3 of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the
4 “Secretary”) shall strike a gold medal with suitable em-
5 blems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the
6 Secretary.

7 **SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.**

8 Under such regulations as the Secretary may pre-
9 scribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in
10 bronze of the gold medal struck under section 3 at a price
11 sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, mate-
12 rials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses, and
13 the cost of the gold medal.

14 **SEC. 5. STATUS AS NATIONAL MEDALS.**

15 (a) NATIONAL MEDAL.—The medal struck under this
16 Act is a national medal for purposes of chapter 51 of title
17 31, United States Code.

18 (b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section
19 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all duplicate medals
20 struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic
21 items.

22 **SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF**
23 **SALE.**

24 (a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There
25 are authorized to be charged against the United States

1 Mint Public Enterprise Fund, such sums as may be nec-
2 essary to pay for the cost of the medals struck under this
3 Act.

4 (b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the
5 sale of duplicate bronze medals under section 4 shall be
6 deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise
7 Fund.

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